Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

IN REPLY REFER TO:
115-I

April 16, 2015

The Honorable Diane Joens
Mayor, City of Cottonwood
827 North Main Street
Cottonwood, Arizona 86326

Community: City of Cottonwood, Arizona
Community No.: 040096
Map Panels Affected: See FIRM Index

Dear Mayor Joens:

On September 25, 2012, you were notified of proposed modified flood hazard determinations affecting the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Yavapai County, Arizona and Incorporated Areas. The statutory 90-day appeal period that was initiated on October 10, 2012, when the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published a notice of proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for your community in the *Camp Verde Journal*, *Verde Independent*, and the *Camp Verde Bugle*, has elapsed.

FEMA received no valid requests for changes in the Flood Hazard Determinations. Therefore, the determination of the Agency as to the flood hazards for your community is considered final. The final Flood Hazard Determinations will be published in the *Federal Register* as soon as possible. The modified flood hazards and revised map panels, as referenced above, will be effective as of October 16, 2015, and revise the FIRM that was in effect prior to that date. For insurance rating purposes, the community number and new suffix code for the panels being revised are indicated above and on the maps and must be used for all new policies and renewals.

The modifications are pursuant to Section 206 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-234) and are in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (Title XIII of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Public Law 90-448), 42 U.S.C. 4001-4128, and 44 CFR Part 65. Because of the modifications to the FIRM and FIS report for your community made by this map revision, certain additional requirements must be met under Section 1361 of the 1968 Act, as amended, within 6 months from the date of this letter. Prior to October 16, 2015, your community is required, as a condition of continued eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), to adopt or show evidence of adoption of floodplain management regulations that meet the standards of Paragraph 60.3(d) of the NFIP regulations. These standards are the minimum requirements and do not supersede any State or local requirements of a more stringent nature.

It must be emphasized that all the standards specified in Paragraph 60.3(d) of the NFIP regulations must be enacted in a legally enforceable document. This includes the adoption of the effective FIRM and FIS report to which the regulations apply and the modifications made by this map revision. Some of the standards should already have been enacted by your community. Any additional requirements can be met by taking one of the following actions:

1. Amending existing regulations to incorporate any additional requirements of Paragraph 60.3(d);

2. Adopting all the standards of Paragraph 60.3(d) into one new, comprehensive set of regulations; or

3. Showing evidence that regulations have previously been adopted that meet or exceed the minimum requirements of Paragraph 60.3(d).

Communities that fail to enact the necessary floodplain management regulations will be suspended from participation in the NFIP and subject to the prohibitions contained in Section 202(a) of the 1973 Act as amended.

A Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) has been designated to assist your community with any difficulties you may be encountering in enacting the floodplain management regulations. The CCO will be the primary liaison between your community and FEMA. For information about your CCO, please contact:

Mr. Jeffrey D. Lusk
Director, Mitigation Division
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IX
1111 Broadway Street, Suite 1200
Oakland, California 94607-4052
(510)-627-7116

To assist your community in maintaining the FIRM, we have enclosed a Summary of Map Actions to document previous Letter of Map Change (LOMC) actions (i.e., Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs), Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs)) that will be superseded when the revised FIRM panels referenced above become effective. Information on LOMCs is presented in the following four categories: (1) LOMCs for which results have been included on the revised FIRM panels; (2) LOMCs for which results could not be shown on the revised FIRM panels because of scale limitations or because the LOMC issued had determined that the lots or structures involved were outside the Special Flood Hazard Area as shown on the FIRM; (3) LOMCs for which results have not been included on the revised FIRM panels because the flood hazard information on which the original determinations were based is being superseded by new flood hazard information; and (4) LOMCs issued for multiple lots or structures where the determination for one or more of the lots or structures cannot be revalidated through an administrative process like the LOMCs in Category 2 above. LOMCs in Category 2 will be revalidated through a single letter that reaffirms the validity of a previously issued LOMC; the letter will be sent to your community shortly before the effective date of the revised FIRM and will become effective 1 day after the revised FIRM becomes effective. For the LOMCs listed in Category 4, we will review the data previously submitted for the LOMA or LOMR request and issue a new determination for the affected properties after the revised FIRM becomes effective.

The FIRM panels have been computer-generated. Once the FIRM and FIS report are printed and distributed, the digital files containing the flood hazard data for the entire county can be provided to your community for use in a computer mapping system. These files can be used in conjunction with other thematic data for floodplain management purposes, insurance purchase and rating requirements, and many other planning applications. Copies of the digital files or paper copies of the FIRM panels may be obtained by calling our FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX), toll free, at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627). In addition, your community may be eligible for additional credits under our Community Rating System if you implement your activities using digital mapping files.

If you have any questions regarding the necessary floodplain management measures for your community or the NFIP in general, we urge you to call the Director, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division of FEMA in Oakland, California, at (510) 627-7100 for assistance. If you have any questions concerning

mapping issues in general or the enclosed Summary of Map Actions, please call our FMIX at the toll free number shown above. Additional information and resources your community may find helpful regarding the NFIP and floodplain management, such as *The National Flood Insurance Program Code of Federal Regulations*, *Answers to Questions About the National Flood Insurance Program*, *Use of Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Data as Available Data*, *Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Effect that Revised Flood Hazards have on Existing Structures*, and *National Flood Insurance Program Elevation Certificate and Instructions*, can be found on our website at http://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/lfd. Paper copies of these documents may also be obtained by calling our FMIX.

Sincerely,

Luis Rodriguez, P.E., Chief
Engineering Management Branch
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

Enclosure:
Final Summary of Map Actions

cc: Community Map Repository
Cindy Smith, Floodplain Administrator, City of Cottonwood
Senator Jeff Flake, State Office
Senator John McCain, State Office
Representative Paul Gosar, District Office
Representative Ann Kirkpatrick, District Office